

**From:** Patrick Boyd  
**To:** microsoft.atr  
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**Subject:** Microsoft proposed DOJ settlement

I wish this was going to Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly and not the Department of Justice, which after the change in administration, should now be called the Department of Injustice. I expect that whoever is reading this will stop at this point in put a check mark in a column against the proposed DOJ settlement.

The proposed DOJ settlement is an insult to everyone except mabey shareholders of Microsoft. It isn't even a slap on the hand. Or if you prefer, it is the perfect example of all the political and legal Justice someone can afford.

Even as we speak Microsoft is using the Business Software Alliance, its equivalent of the IRS/Gestapo, to put the fear of God into the public at large. The end result will be solidifying its monopolist position in the operating system, office productivity, web browser, ect.. Even though other companies are participating members of the Business Software Alliance, it is discounts for Microsoft software that are being used as the carrot for compliance.

A good example is the following excerpt from an article in the Tennessean, the major daily paper in Nashville, TN:  
[http://www.tennessean.com/business/archives/02/01/12536028.shtml?Element\\_ID=12536028](http://www.tennessean.com/business/archives/02/01/12536028.shtml?Element_ID=12536028)  
"Everyone is scared and thinks they could go to prison,"  
said Wayne Adams, president of Night Technologies, a  
computer consultant company in Nashville. "We've had a  
tremendous number of people asking if they need to turn  
themselves in."

Microsoft's approach requiring both initial registration of Windows XP, and reregistration when changes to hardware are made, are another perfect example of a monopoly using its power to continue its monopoly. This has the potential to result in a greater database of personal information than even that of the IRS, because it will not only cover virtually every individual and business in the United States, but the world. Databases start small and grow as additional pieces of information are acquired and connected with other pieces of information. It doesn't matter what Microsoft says it won't do with the information, the fact that it will exist will mean it ultimately will be used, or mined as the industry likes to refer to it.

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